Talks for Repatriation of Bangladeshis

†*148. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Bangladeshi nationals staying illegally in India;

(b) whether any meaningful negotiations have been held with Bangladesh to send them back to Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, what progress has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) It is difficult to make a realistic estimate of the number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has taken up. at various levels, with the Government of Bangladesh the question of illegal immigration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. The official stand of the Government of Bangladesh has been that there are no Bangladeshi illegal immigrants in India. They have however, assured that measures will be taken to strengthen security at the border and prevent illegal border crossing.

Financial Crunch in the Public Sector Textile Mills

*149. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to provide Technology Upgradation Fund for cash trapped textile industry have totally flopped;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the textile industry throughout the country, particularly the Public Sector Textile Mills, are facing finanical crunch; and

(d) if so, the step Government propose to take in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.